

## CLAIMS

1. In an electronic device that accepts drawn graphic entries and includes a screen display, a method for creating headings in text displayed on the screen,

5 including the steps of:

drawing a staircase object having at least one vertical segment joined to at least one horizontal segment to define at least one step;

recognizing the drawn staircase object;

entering at least one alphanumeric character adjacent to said at least one

10 step to define a heading style for said at least one step and create a staircase formatting object;

substituting a graphic object for said at least one alphanumeric character;

thereafter automatically creating a heading having said graphic object wherever said at least one alphanumeric character appears at the beginning of a

15 line in said text.

2. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of substituting includes placing said graphic object onscreen, and drawing an arrow from said graphic object to said at least one alphanumeric character of said staircase formatting object.

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3. The method of claim 1, wherein said graphic object comprises a bullet.

4. The method of claim 1, further including the step of displaying an Info Canvas for said graphic object.

5. The method of claim 4, further including the step of providing a selection in said Info Canvas to enable selecting and deselecting display of said graphic object in said heading.

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6. The method of claim 4, further including the step of providing a Category selection in said Info Canvas to enable display of said graphic object in said heading whenever an alphanumeric character having a categorical similarity to said at least one alphanumeric character is placed at the beginning of a line in  
10 said text.

7. The method of claim 4, further including the step of providing a Individual Character selection in said Info Canvas to enable display of said graphic object in said heading only when said at least one alphanumeric character  
15 is placed at the beginning of a line in said text.

8. The method of claim 1, further including the step of assigning the placement of said graphic object in said heading to a designated keyboard function key, whereby pressing said designated keyboard function key at the  
20 beginning of a line in said text causes said graphic object to appear in said heading.